

The Woman's Column.

VOL. X.

NEW YORK AND BOSTON, MAY 22, 1897.

No. 21.

The Woman's Column.

Published Weekly at 3 Park Street, Boston, Mass.

EDITOR:

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL.

Subscription 50 cents per annum
Advertising Rates . . . 25 cents per line.

Entered as second class matter at the Boston, Mass.
Post Office, Jan. 18, 1888.

NEW ENGLAND FESTIVAL.

Notice that the business meeting of the New England W. S. A. is to be held at 3 Park Street, Boston, at 10 A. M. on Thursday, May 27, instead of May 26, as at first advertised. The change has been made in order to bring the meeting and the Festival on the same day, for the convenience of friends from a distance.

At the New England Suffrage Festival, to be held at the Vendome, on the evening of May 27, there will be addresses by Speaker Bates and Representative Geo. R. Jones, of the Massachusetts Legislature, Dr. Lorimer, Rev. Ida C. Hultin, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, Mrs. Ednah D. Cheney, Mrs. Phebe S. Beeman, of Vermont, Mrs. Annie C. S. Fenner, of Connecticut, William Lloyd Garrison, Henry B. Blackwell, and, it is hoped, Mrs. Hannah C. Bailey, of Maine. Hon. John C. Wyman, of Rhode Island, has been invited to preside. Tickets, \$1.00, for sale at 3 Park Street.

A PLEA FOR SUFFRAGE.

At the recent hearing on woman suffrage in Rhode Island, a most effective speech was made by Miss Sarah E. Doyle, a teacher in the Providence High School for thirty-five years, and principal of the Girls' Department for about half that time. Miss Doyle is one of the most distinguished women of Rhode Island, wielding, perhaps, the most powerful influence of any woman in the State. She has never till now identified herself publicly with the woman suffrage movement, and her speech was a surprise and delight to many who were not aware of the strength of her convictions upon the subject. Miss Doyle said:

Every human being possesses influence, but this influence is not always effective. According to law, women are eligible to the school committee. Yet, after twenty years of this law, very few women occupy that position. Out of thirty-five members of the Providence school board, only one is a woman. What power can one woman have under these circumstances? Suppose the case were reversed and only one man was a member of a committee of thirty-five, all the rest being women? What influence would he possess? There are six hundred teachers in the schools of Providence; five hundred and fifty of them are women. These women teachers have very little influence with the school committee. They are not asked what they desire. Why should they be allowed to be

teachers, if not fit to have any voice in the legislation for the schools?

New conditions make new laws necessary. Women have to go out into the world to work. They take offices in public buildings, not because they like to, but because they must do so to earn a living. This makes the police arrangements a matter of importance to women, and they need a voice in regard to them. Indeed, women need the ballot on all questions just as much as men do. It is said that voting is too public for women to participate in with propriety. Women attend the Horse Show in New York, and are on exhibition there. They are, in fact, a part of the show. This is being just as public as it would be to go to the polls. Women exhibit themselves in the boxes at the theatre. There is no objection to their doing so, nor can there be to their dropping a ballot into the box. Men and women are not antagonistic to each other. What elevates women elevates men. Men are our best friends. But our best friends do not always know what is best for us.

HOW TO HELP YOUR TREASURY.

Mrs. Emma E. Page, of Olympia, State Superintendent of Franchise for West Washington, has brought out a circular of excellent suggestions for work in the now pending campaign for the equal suffrage amendment. One of these might well be adopted by other State superintendents of franchise, and by local Suffrage Associations, or individual workers. The *Woman's Journal* offers a cash premium of Twenty Dollars for twenty-five new subscribers. These new subscribers need not all live in one place. They may live in twenty-five different towns, provided their names are all sent in at one time. Mrs. Page has sent the following request to each local Union: "The *Woman's Journal* may be had for \$1.50 per year to new subscribers. If I can get up a club of twenty-five new subscribers, I can get a premium of \$20, to be used for amendment work. That would be great riches for the department, and two such clubs would bring in double riches. Now, sisters, will you not raise the amount of one subscription, at least, for your Union? If you can get ten people to give fifteen cents each, you have it, and you have ten stockholders in the Amendment Campaign. They will be like the newsboy who gave a penny to missions, and then wanted to go to the next meeting, as he said, 'To see how we are getting on.' If any one can give five cents, instead of fifteen, it will only take three such to make up the share. The \$1.50 can be raised if you will set yourselves to it with prayer and patient work. Persuade those who are opposed to the Amendment to help you get the *Journal*, that they may read both sides. And when you get it, see that it is thoroughly and widely read—don't let it gather dust. *Don't fail in getting one subscription* (get as many more as possible), and send to me now. Now is the time! Send the subscription to me.

You will lose nothing, and you will thereby endow the State Franchise Department so that it can send out literature, and push the Amendment Campaign."

AN OBJECT LESSON IN ST. LOUIS.

Miss Belle Norman received a large vote for member of the Board of Education in St. Louis, Mo., on May 18, but failed of election. It was the first time that a woman had been a candidate for the school board in that conservative city. Miss Norman had the earnest support of a multitude of St. Louis women, both rich and poor, who used their "indirect influence" for her to the utmost. In view of her personal fitness, and of the good work done by women on school boards in other cities, it is a pity she was defeated. But it is an object lesson for Missouri women on the need of the ballot. If they could have added their own votes to the votes they secured by their influence, Miss Norman would have been elected.

ARMENIANS AS HELP.

Two well-educated Armenian girls want work. One is a doctor's daughter, and speaks English, but is not very strong. She could do light housework, sew, take care of children, or wait on an invalid. The other cannot speak English, but speaks French fluently. She is an expert seamstress (was a teacher of sewing and embroidery in the Armenian schools of Constantinople), and would be glad either to work with a dressmaker or to get a permanent position as seamstress in a good private family.

There are several young men who wish to do housework, and two men who wish to do farm work. A. S. B.

MRS. J. H. FRENCH has bequeathed a large sum to Beloit College, on condition that vivisection shall never be practised in any department. If the condition is violated, the money is to go to the American Humane Education Society.

Hereafter, if we speak of the Massachusetts association opposed to the further extension of suffrage to women, we shall call it the M. A. O. T. T. F. E. O. S. T. W., but we shall not speak of it any oftener than we can help.—*Boston Globe*.

MISS GRACE BRIGGS, daughter of Prof. Charles A. Briggs, who took her diploma on May 18, is the first woman to graduate from Union Theological Seminary, and the first person to receive the new degree of bachelor of divinity from the school. Miss Briggs does not expect to preach. She is to be professor of Greek in the school for deaconesses, and will have charge of a class in biblical study in a large girls' school. These two classes will take up about half her time. The rest will be devoted to helping her father in his Hebrew lexicon work.

MORE TESTIMONY FROM COLORADO.

The Civic Federation of Denver, Col., which was chiefly instrumental in bringing about the recent victory of municipal reform in that city, has joined with the Colorado Equal Suffrage Association in putting forth the following statement, in reply to various absurd reports circulated of late regarding the results of woman suffrage in Colorado:

We, the members of the Colorado Equal Suffrage Association and of the Civic Federation of Denver, having had our attention called to sensational and misleading reports in some Eastern journals concerning the results of impartial suffrage in our State, are impelled to issue a brief answering statement. Self-assertion being as unbecoming in associations as in individuals, we should accept in silence, as the inevitable due of innovators, the persecution of prejudiced critics, did their hostility affect ourselves alone; but when false statements are made the weapons with which to defeat the liberty of women in other States, a measure of authoritative self-assertion becomes necessary.

We do not claim that phenomenal good has been secured by the vote of women. The tyranny of political machinery, made effective by long usage under the management of trained workers, cannot be overcome by the enthusiasm of raw recruits. We do claim that the women of Colorado have a vital part in the great movement that is everywhere seeking a better social order.

The successful outcome of the late municipal election in Denver, occurring as it did three years after our enfranchisement, was the first triumph of an organized effort made by women to influence conventions and carry an election. The success is considered an earnest of future achievement through women's ballots in the interest of reform. Never before or since the establishment of impartial suffrage in our State has there been such concentrated effort in behalf of reform legislation. Bills relating to "civil service," "local option," "indeterminate sentence," a "new primary law," and "improved election laws" were all proposed and endorsed by organizations of women. The first Legislature of the new order passed a bill giving the wife equal rights with her husband in the possession of their children, and the bill raising to eighteen years the age of legal protection for girls.

In our present House of Representatives the effort toward practical economic reform is illustrated in the careful work of the printing committee, which, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Conine, is found to have cost the State \$2,000 less during the session lately adjourned than ever before.

To the efficiency of Mrs. Peavey's administration of the office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of School Lands, and State Librarian, fine testimony is given by the German element of our population, which is usually opposed to the recognition of women as citizens of the Commonwealth. The Denver *Herald*, a journal published in the German tongue, says in one of its January issues:

Mrs. Peavey showed a zeal in perform-

ing her official duties hitherto unknown in State officials. Of unimpeachable devotion to duty and great integrity, inspired and upheld by firmness and uprightness of character, she not only attended to the duty of overseeing the teaching in the schools, but insisted that the business of the boards to which she belonged should be handled in a proper manner. Often she was obliged to call the male members of the board to book when they wished to lay on the table measures demanding much time and attention, while in her school-lands-commission work she prevented many a bad swindle by her energetic investigation, and always protected the poor people against the greed of the more powerful. Our readers know that we have never been in favor of women in politics, and are not to-day; nevertheless, if the women of the State can put such officers in the field as Mrs. Peavey, to whom we can point as an example of immovable official integrity, then the women will be most welcome comrades in the fight against the corruption that disgraces our republic.

If the absurd and unfounded comments of the Eastern press in regard to the liability of Colorado women to the requirements of military service, and rumors of unwomanly violence of temper in important State conventions, be worthy of notice, it may be answered that the women of the Centennial State are as securely exempt from military duty as are the women living under the control of those States which still deny them the gentle but effective weapon of the ballot. Further, we answer that no representative convention has had such experience of wild disorder as has been announced by misinformed Eastern papers.

In regard to the effect of universal suffrage in Colorado upon the temperance question, it is found that, although the ranks of the temperance party have not been largely recruited, for women as well as men are in doubt as to the wisdom of working for temperance through a distinct party, temperance legislation has been materially assisted. Three years ago, only three Colorado cities prohibited the sale of intoxicants. Now twenty-seven municipalities refuse to grant license for their sale.

An interesting fact has lately been noted in regard to the relative dignity of the two houses of our Legislature. The lower house outranks the Senate in the serious decorum of legislative deliberation. The few women who sit as members in the representative hall of our beautiful Colorado capitol seem unconsciously to impose upon its proceedings a greater regard for the amenities of speech and conduct than is observed in the upper house, where there are, as yet, no women to be considered.

No less characteristic of Western chivalry is the improvement that women's presence has made in the localities of primary meetings and polling-booths. In many precincts where formerly they were held in stables or drinking saloons, primaries are now convened in home parlors, and polling-booths are arranged in respectable buildings, and voting is invariably conducted with decorum.

Since the success of the legislative referendum of 1893, the women of Colorado have evinced a remarkable interest in all things pertaining to general good. Because

their opinions expressed through the ballot-box have due weight in bringing about actual results, they have felt it their duty to make themselves acquainted with the principles and methods of government. For this zealous obedience to duty they have been doubly rewarded in finding that their zeal has acted as a leaven whose power has been irresistible, as is proved by the fact that the science of political economy has been more generally and seriously studied in Colorado during the last three years, by both men and women, than in all the previous history of the State.

All this is a thrice-told tale, whose repetition, however, it seems necessary to continue until its gospel shall penetrate the dull ears of ancient prejudice and the obstinate deafness of those who will not hear. The same story is charmingly repeated by a bright Denver woman, who, in reply to solicitous inquiries of an Eastern friend, wrote:

Whether our character has deteriorated by the use of the ballot, or whether an improvement is indicated by an increased interest in educational, social and civil questions, is not for us to say. This we may affirm: That, while we enjoy the self-respect that comes from recognized freedom, we are conscious of no deterioration in essential womanliness, and detect no diminution of courtesy on the part of our masculine friends.

The vocation of housewife is no whit less honored than before the acknowledgment of our individuality as citizens, and we still love our husbands, children and homes as always. Under the pressure of responsibility, we have a living interest in the moral and social issues of the day which we did not feel in the time of disfranchisement, when we had no incentive to study the principles involved, and no part in correcting public evils. We believe that the sympathy and coöperation of men and women in the things that concern good government is an important step in the process of social evolution.

It cannot be denied that the sentimental remonstrant is still amongst us, and that we have in our own State bitter enemies whose corrupt schemes women's votes have helped to defeat; neither, on the other hand, can it be denied that, after a three years' novitiate in the exercise of our duties as citizens, we find encouraging confirmation of our best hope of reform through the quiet power of the ballot in our hands.

Being now in the enjoyment of the first victory of our concentrated action in municipal interests, we have reason to believe that disadvantages of inexperience are already giving way before an intelligent insistence upon the use of upright political methods. It is evident that every year will find the Colorado woman a more efficient citizen; but she has learned the lesson of patience, and is now able to recognize that the errors of many generations can be overcome only by the slow process of ethical development, and that the mental and spiritual plane worthy of true humanity can soonest be reached through the concentrated and conscious effort of the best elements of society in every State.

Denver, Col., May 13, 1897.

STRONG-MINDED MOTHERS.

An anonymous correspondent, in a recent letter to the papers, says that the children of to-day are more excitable than those of fifty years ago, because they are left to servants, and on coming home from school they find their mother "off to some woman's rights meeting, or casting her ballot."

Nothing so stirs the indignation of the children of suffragists as the charge that the women who attend equal rights meetings neglect their offspring. Whatever it may please outsiders to imagine on this point, we know by happy experience that there are no better mothers in the world.

At the party given in honor of the seventieth birthday of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe (a suffragist), her son told one of the editors of the *Woman's Journal* that he wished the public could know how completely, in the eyes of her own family, Mrs. Stowe's fame as an author was eclipsed by her virtues as an almost ideal mother.

Mrs. Gov. Wallace, of Indiana, from whom Gen. Lew Wallace said that he drew the portrait of the mother in "Ben Hur," devoted herself to lecturing for woman suffrage for many years, after her children were grown up and married.

Ask the children of Lucretia Mott, Julia Ward Howe, Mrs. Livermore, Mrs. Booth, of the Salvation Army, Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, etc. They will all testify that a strong-minded mother is worth fully as much to her family as any weak-minded mother could possibly be.

From Juvenal's time down to our own, the great enemies of maternal duties have been fashion and frivolity. Children are neglected for "society" a thousand times where they are neglected once for philanthropy or reform.

Whatever tends to make women more thoughtful and broad-minded tends inevitably to make them better mothers.

My impression is that just now the rising generation is in more danger from whist parties than from woman's rights meetings.

It may also be observed, parenthetically, that whatever may be the cause of the alleged greater excitability of modern children, it cannot well be due to their mother's "casting a ballot," since she is not yet allowed to do so.

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL.

EQUAL SUFFRAGE IN RHODE ISLAND.

On the afternoon of May 11, a woman suffrage hearing before the commission to revise the constitution of Rhode Island took place at the State House in Providence. Rev. Anna Garlin Spencer presented the demands of the Rhode Island W. S. A. Mrs. Spencer said, in part:

Many are dissatisfied with the present sweeping laws discriminating against women. Some believe that property, whether vested in a man or a woman, ought to be represented. Others think that revolutionary heredity is entitled to representation. Some feel that special moral principles should be allowed a voice in the government. Women are especially called to help in educational matters. There are many questions of vital interest to women. The corrupt use of public office has ex-

cited in many a feeling that it is their duty to help purify the administration. Pure air, good water, and clean streets are necessities which bear especially upon the health and comfort of the home, matters of vital interest to women. But we are not here to-day to ask for anything less than equal suffrage, though we are in no way antagonistic to those partial pleas. We ask that there shall be no distinction on account of sex. If any distinction is made, let it be on the ground of intelligence and character, with men and women above the line and men and women below the line which divides the qualified from the disqualified. Democratic government has never yet been tried. We ask that the full principle shall be voted upon.

MRS. CONINE IN CHICAGO.

Illinois women have enjoyed a treat lately in a visit from Mrs. Martha A. Conine, one of the three women members of the Colorado House of Representatives. A Chicago paper says:

"Mrs. Martha A. B. Conine brings tidings of great joy to the equal suffragists in Chicago. Mrs. Conine is chairman of the printing committee of the House, a member of the committee on judiciary, of the committee on State institutions, and of six or seven other committees, and incidentally she is one of the leading reasons why the city business of Denver has been taken out of politics and placed in the hands of a non-partisan mayor and cabinet.

"Mrs. Conine was at the Woman's Club yesterday (May 14), and was given a luncheon by the members who are in harmony with her views. Mrs. Conine is positive that Colorado is pleased with equal suffrage, and has no desire or expectation of repealing the act. It has become so firmly established there that there is no longer any discussion along this line. She says the women are busy with work proving that it is wise for any commonwealth to give its women the right to vote, and she estimates that the results obtained in three year's time are enough to warrant any State in following the example of Colorado. She adds:

In Denver is found one of the most gratifying examples of the value of the woman vote in municipal elections. The city had long been under the rule of corporations, and in the hands of men who worked for their own interests. We had there a Civic Federation composed of women. It was decided by the Federation this spring to go into the field and act with independence—not merely to swell the total vote of the old parties.

T. H. McMurray was the nominee, and he was put on three other tickets. It was necessary for the Civic Federation to adopt some emblem for the head of the ticket, and the Federation joined with the Taxpayers' League under the emblem of St. George trampling the dragon under his feet. The old parties referred to the women's convention as the pink tea. There were weeks of hard work, but when the votes were counted it was shown that the women had carried the entire city with the exception of two aldermen. A complete reformation in the methods of government was adopted, and there has been a strict adherence to the motto of the women—business and not politics in municipal affairs.

Almost the only opposition to equal suffrage in Colorado is found in the East. There were three of us women in the Legislature, and to get the sentiment of

**How Women May Earn a Living
One Hundred and Seventeen Ways.**

A New Book. Price, 50 cents. Sent, postpaid, on receipt of price by

MABEL L. CONKLIN.

Purity Organizer, N. W. C. T. U.

28 New York Ave., - - - Brooklyn, N. Y.

the house we drafted a resolution commendatory of the cause. It was willingly signed by all but seven of the members. There is no doubt the right for women to vote in Colorado is firmly established, and the women have done nothing to make the men anxious to repeal the act. They have shown great interest in elections, and in one district, where the total possible woman vote was 571, there was a ballot of 560.

I think the influence of women in politics is going to be for the better, and there has been a decided change in Colorado, despite the fact that we have been voting for only three years. We have been able to do wonders in Denver, even if in three years we have not been able to get all the ward heelers out of power. We do not talk much about equal suffrage in Colorado, as it is an accepted fact and a part of ancient history with us. We study how best to improve the chances it has brought to us.

The Legislature treated the women members with the greatest honor, and some of us hold positions on the leading committees. It has all come as the result of the work of women in women's clubs, and it has been our experience that as soon as equal suffrage is adopted, all the women's clubs are anxious to sweep in with their support. The leading women in Denver are interested very actively in politics, and this applies as well to the exclusive society clubs as to those organized for reforms.

A WOMAN PUBLIC GUARDIAN.

Miss Mary M. Bartelme has been appointed public guardian for Cook County by Gov. Tanner of Illinois, an action which, as the *Chicago Times-Herald* says, "upsets the musty precedents of generations." Miss Bartelme is the junior member of the firm of Barnes, Barnes & Bartelme, and is the only woman lawyer in Chicago who makes a specialty of probate cases. Judge Kohlsaat, before whom all such cases come, had noted her ability, and when the office of public guardian became vacant, he wrote to the Governor recommending her appointment. The public guardian administers the estates of orphans who are left without competent relatives. Miss Bartelme already has twenty-five wards, and will probably have a hundred before the end of the year. She takes a great interest in these children, and they seem to have a genuine affection for her. Her sympathy for orphan children, and especially for the children of the poor, began during her service as a school-teacher. She taught for some years in the Armour School. Miss Bartelme is said to be as kind-hearted as she is intelligent; and although many men were applicants for the position of public guardian, she is so much liked that none of them grudge her the appointment.

Miss Bartelme is a member of the State Bar Association and of the Chicago Woman's Club, and is professor of medical jurisprudence at the woman's medical school of the Northwestern University.

SUFFRAGE BAZAR NOTES.

A meeting of those interested in the Suffrage Bazar of next December was held at 3 Park Street, last Tuesday. There was a large attendance, and much interest was shown.

The Roxbury League has voted to name its table the William Lloyd Garrison table, and Mr. Francis J. Garrison has promised to lend for the occasion a banner which his mother displayed over her table at one of the anti-slavery fairs forty years ago. Mrs. Rosa Prang Heinzen will have charge of this table.

The Waltham Club has received a letter from the daughter of Gen. Banks, giving her own and her mother's cordial approval to the plan of naming the Waltham table for Gen. Banks.

Wellesley has voted to have a kitchen supply table, and will probably name it for Miss Sarah Southwick. Mrs. Warren A. Rodman will be at the head of it.

The friends in Jamaica Plain held a meeting to plan for the Bazar on Thursday of last week, at the home of Mrs. Geo. A. O. Ernst, and will hold another to-day at the home of Mrs. Starbuck, on Centre Street. They will have a miscellaneous table, part of which will be devoted to natural objects. Mrs. Ernst will be at the head of it.

Mrs. Moreland, of Everett, has offered to have a table of preserves and jellies, with which she has been very successful at previous Bazaars. All who mean to contribute canned fruits, jellies, pickles, etc., are invited to place them on her table, although they can of course place them on the tables of their own Leagues if they prefer.

Mrs. Gleason, of Roslindale, will have charge of a table of books and stationery.

Mrs. Sargent, president of the Malden League, has sent out a hundred circulars to friends, asking them to contribute; and with the coöperation of Mrs. Nickles, Malden expects to furnish a table.

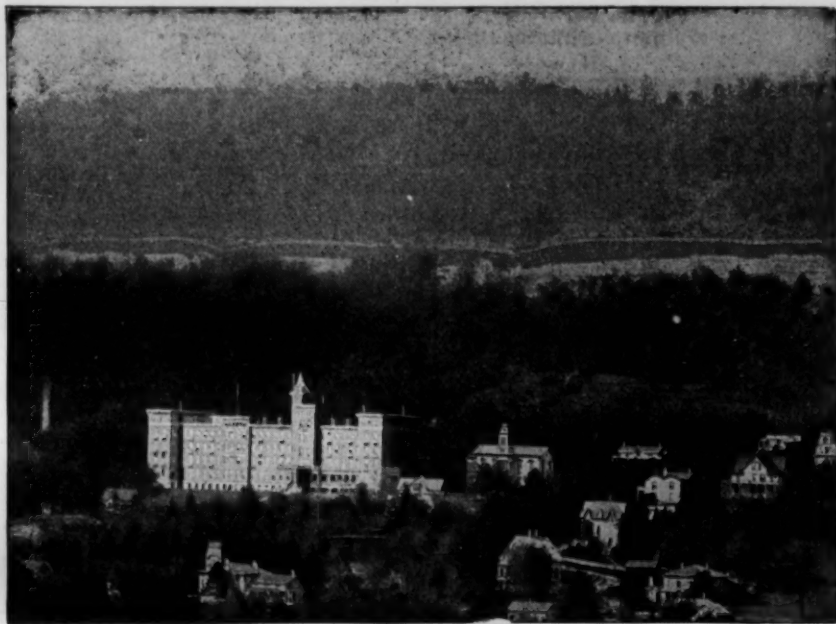
Mrs. Ella L. Breed reports that Nash and Whitten have promised a barrel of Worcester salt, all the shredded codfish needed for the restaurant, and all that we can sell outside. She is confident that she can also secure chocolate, tea and coffee. All these are to be credited to the Wellesley Hills table.

Mrs. L. N. Coy has a way of putting up unfermented grape-juice which is delicious, excellent in convalescence from almost all sorts of illnesses, and is also said to be a preventive against grippe. She will contribute a dozen bottles. Mrs. Marie A. Moore, of Newton, has been very successful in making the same thing, and offers to put up any amount, if anybody will contribute the grapes. Concord are the best, but any kind will do.

The little new League at South Egremont Plain has been suffering under discouragements. But the brave little League has voted to help the Bazar to the extent of "five dollars or more," and it will probably be more. As somebody says in one of Kingsley's novels, "Fools count by size, but knights by courage."

East Boston has voted to contribute its goods to the Lucy Stone table, and to invite Chelsea to join with it.

HEALTH! REST! COMFORT!



The Jackson Sanatorium.

DANSVILLE, LIVINGSTON COUNTY, N. Y.

established in 1858. Most beautiful and commodious Fire-Proof Building in the world, used as a Health Institution. All forms of Hydro-therapeutics, massage, rest cure, electricity administered by skilled attendants. A staff of regular physicians of large experience; accommodations and service of highest class. Superior cuisine directed by Emma P. Ewing, teacher of cooking at Chautauqua. Do not fail to write for illustrated literature and terms if seeking **health or rest**. Address,

J. Arthur Jackson, M. D., Secretary, Box 1501.

A circular letter has been addressed to the Women's Clubs, inviting their members to contribute articles to the Julia Ward Howe table.

Many useful suggestions were made. Among the things mentioned which sell well at Bazaars were invalid wraps — "Nightingale wraps," as they are sometimes called — towels, hand-hemmed sheets and pillow-cases, nice flannel petticoats for children, wrappers and night-dresses, neatly made but without much trimming, children's aprons, strong linen picture-books, brightly bound, and with pictures cut from newspapers pasted into them, etc., etc. Mrs. Moore can make good use for the Fair of any old numbers of *Harper* containing Abbey's illustrations.

Fourteen tables are now assigned. In addition, it is proposed to have a bag table, a confectionery table, a toy table, etc.

Several practical workers said: "Let us take orders ahead for preserves and jellies, and for Christmas presents. Let every woman who means to give a Christmas present make up her mind to buy it at the Bazar. Above all, keep soliciting contributions. There is plenty of latent energy in every woman, and if she just asks every friend from now till December to give her something, there will be a splendid array of goods."

A. S. B.

The Massachusetts Association Opposed to the Extension of Suffrage to Women held its second annual meeting at the Vendome, Boston, last week, Wednesday afternoon.

MRS. STANTON AT 81.

Miss Frances Ellen Burr, of Hartford, Conn., lately made a call on Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, who is eighty-one. Miss Burr writes to the *Hartford Times*:

Few women would care to have their age mentioned. But Mrs. Stanton is an exception to the general rule in more particulars than one. She sees no reason why it is any worse for a woman to grow old than for a man; and if all women could do it as gracefully as she is doing it, they would have reason to take pride in every added year. She retains a perennial flow of good spirits, and her mind and reasoning faculties are untouched by age. She has no idea of dying yet. I remarked that I thought the natural term of human life was a hundred years at least, and that people would attain to that when they learned how to live. She assented, and said she would like to live to one hundred if she could retain her faculties. She spoke of the enjoyment of old age, and thought it really the happiest part of our life. Of course, the great secret of the fabled "fountain of perpetual youth" is a contented, happy mind, a mind that is occupied with work, or that can enter with zest into the thoughts of the best writers and philosophers. With such a mind, old age is not to be dreaded. While the heart is young the body can be kept in fair tune. Mrs. Stanton invited us to stop to lunch with her, and entertained us with interesting stories from her own experience as well as with the hospitalities of her table. It is true, as she remarked, that women generally place too much importance on the food. Never make the guests secondary to the food. Whatever one has in the house, little or much, make the best of it, and have a good time. Spend no time in apologizing. Mrs. Stanton's wit sparkles, and her logic is as sound as ever.